

REMARKS

Restriction/Election Requirement

Claims 1 and 12 are generic claims.

The Office Action dated May 1, 2008 requires restriction to one of the following groups:

Group I. Claims 3 and 16, drawn to a lifting device having a trapezoidal spindle.

Group II. Claim 4 and 17, drawn to a lifting device having a motor fastened to the bottom part.

Group III. Claim 5, drawn to a lifting device having motor fastened on a central articulation.

Group IV. Claims 6, 10, 11, 19, and 20, drawn to a lifting device having a sublinkage that runs along the bottom part.

Group V. Claims 9, 14, and 18, drawn to a lifting device having a central articulation that moves rectilinearly.

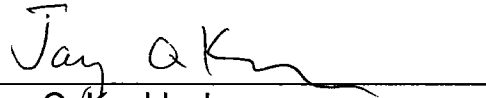
Group VI. Claim 13, drawn to a lifting device having a scissor linkage structure.

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement on the grounds that Groups I through Group VI are easily searched together. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant elects Group IV, which corresponds to claims 6, 10, 11, 19, and 20. Accordingly, Applicant withdraws claims 2 - 5, 9, and 13 - 18 subject, however, to reinstatement in the event the requirement for restriction is withdrawn or overruled (37 C.F.R. §1.142). The restriction requirement for the non-generic claims is subject to the nonallowance of generic claims 1 and 12. Upon the indication of allowability of generic claims 1 and 12, the restriction requirement as to the non-elected claims should be withdrawn and claims depending from or otherwise requiring all the limitations of the allowable generic claims should be rejoined and fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.104.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner is unable to allow the pending claims in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jay Q. Knobloch", written over a horizontal line.

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